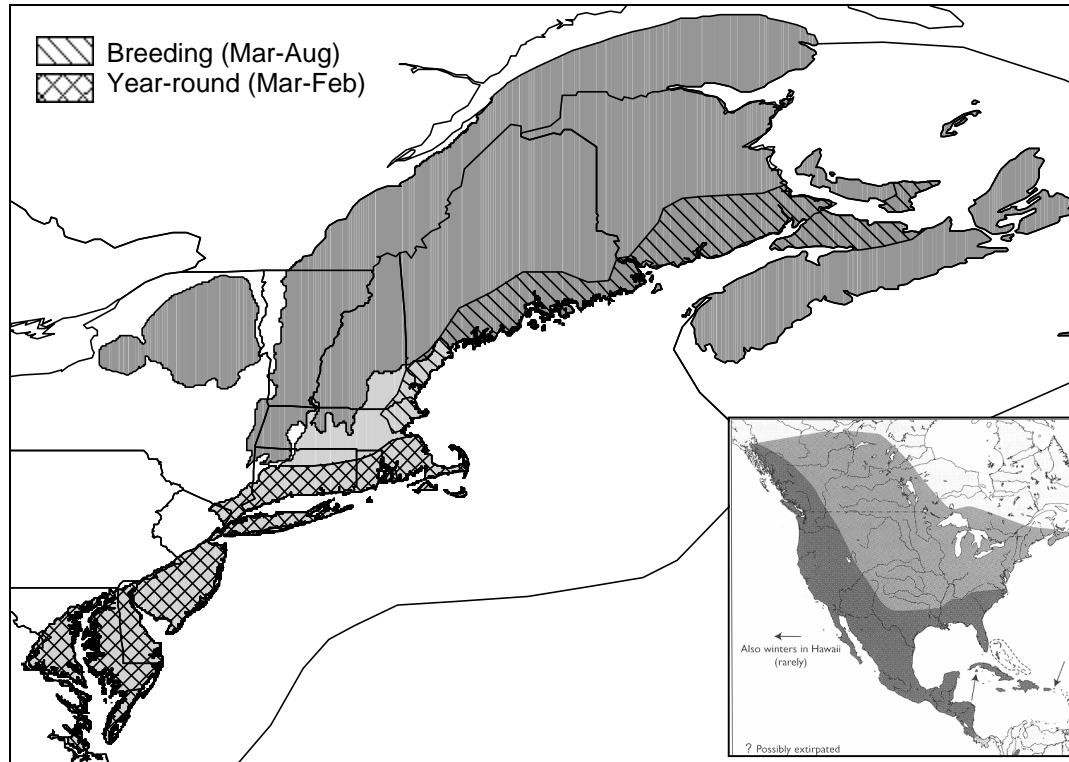


# AMERICAN COOT

*Fulica americana americana*



## Regional Occurrence (BCRs 14, 30)

- Distribution: breeds in region; winters and migrates in BCR 30
- Habitats used: ponds, lakes, and marshes in winter; also fields, brackish estuaries and bays; build floating nests among marsh plants

PIF BD=1; PIF ND=1

## Regional Abundance

- 1990s population size: US—10,400nb; CAN—150
- Historical population size: unknown
- % increase in regional population: unknown

PIF RA=3; PIF PT=4

## Regional Threats

- Populations vary with precipitation levels; loss of nesting habitat and reduced reproductive success during drought
- Hunted game bird in US and Canada
- Parasitic trematode can be contracted

PIF TB=2; PIF TN=1

**Conservation Status:** Abundance (b=breeding, nb=nonbreeding, t=total individuals) and Conservation Rank

Global	North America	BCR 14	BCR 30	Mid-Atlantic	S. New England	Gulf of Maine	Maritimes
?	>6,000,000b	?	?	?	?	?	150b
IUCN- Not Evaluated	NAWCP- Moderate Concern	Moderate (PI=?)	Moderate (PI=?)	NJ-S1B; DE-S1B, S2N MD-SAB, S3N; VA-S1B, S5N	NY-S3; CT-S2N; RI-S2N; MA-S2; VT-SAB, S2N	MA-S2; NH-S2N; ME-S2?B; NB-S2B; NS-S2B	QC-S4; NB-S2B PE-S2B; NS-S2B

**Conservation Needs:** *Sustainability:* 0.2 young / female; >80% nest success (nests hatching at least 1 young); *Density and Foraging Habitat:* 73.8-180.5 pairs / sq km; from 0.10 pairs to 32.6 pairs / sq km during drought and more wet years; semi-permanent wetlands used for breeding, shallow water (depth <6m) close to cover, where stands of emergent vegetation abundant along part of shoreline: seasonal wetlands, lakes, ponds, canals, sloughs, sewage ponds, slower-moving rivers, swamps with some open water, some brackish water of lower salinity; also on dry land, sometimes far from water, on grasses, sprouting cultivated crops, grains; *Issues:* Population management includes evaluation of breeding-ground and wintering-ground surveys and the existence of managed wetland habitats; *Needs:* determine effects on other waterbirds; *Population Goals:* census; *Habitat Goals:* no net loss of wetland habitat